

# THE TEN BEST Folding bikes



**BEST BUDGET BUY**

**Specialized Globe Micro**  
£500

An eight-speed bike with features you'd expect on a full-sized Specialized, including comfy handlebar grips, puncture-resistant tyres, and a "Body Geometry" saddle designed to stop you getting numb bum. It comes with a carry-bag, back-rack and mudguard, so it's ready for all-weather commuting. 020-8391 3500; [www.specialized.com](http://www.specialized.com)



Chosen by  
**Caramel Quinn**



**Mini eBike**  
£1,049

This rechargeable electric bike is "pedal-assisted" which means you can put in minimal effort and yet whizz along at a respectable speed of 15mph. It folds up small enough for a car boot, or a hall cupboard, but be warned: it weighs 23kg, so don't try to lug it anywhere. 0870 6067788; [www.ebike.co.uk](http://www.ebike.co.uk)



**Bike Friday Tour Crusoe Lite**  
From £1,150

At under 8kg, this nine-speed folder is one of the lightest you can buy. What's more, if you're a keen cyclist wanting a second bike for travelling, then Bike Friday can copy the geometry of your current frame so you get a ride that's as similar as possible. 01225 442442; [www.foldingbikes.co.uk](http://www.foldingbikes.co.uk)



**Airnimal Rhino**  
From £1,195

A 27-speed, full-suspension mountain bike that just happens to fold up too. Tyre-wise you can choose between heavy duty knobblies for off-road mayhem or Kevlar-protected slicks with puncture protection for speedy road biking. Use slicks for the weekday commute and then knobblies to hit the trails at the weekend. 01223 523973; [www.airnimal.com](http://www.airnimal.com)



**BEST LUXURY BUY**

**Moulton New Series Speed 'Pylon'**  
£4,995

A serious travelling bike with a price-tag to match. Handmade to order in Bradford-on-Avon, this doesn't exactly fold up. But quickly undo a couple of bolts and it comes apart into three sections, to fit in a small suitcase. The stiff, full-suspension, 18-speed bike is designed for road performance and even holds a world speed record. 01225 865895; [www.alexsmoulton.co.uk](http://www.alexsmoulton.co.uk)



**Riese und Müller Birdy**  
From £830 to £1,880

This full-suspension bike folds up to barely bigger than a Brompton, but is built for touring, not just commuting. You can even add knobly tyres and take it off-road. Top of the range is the Birdy Grey, with a 14-speed hub gear that requires virtually no maintenance. 01225 442442; [www.foldingbikes.co.uk](http://www.foldingbikes.co.uk)



**Brompton T6**  
£635

The classic commuter folding bike. This dinky six-speed Brompton comes with a back-rack and handy permanently fitted dynamo lights. There's also an optional front carrier. Best of all, for just £25 extra, you can choose from a range of 10 bright colours as well as the standard selection of three. 020-8232 8484; [www.bromptonbicycle.co.uk](http://www.bromptonbicycle.co.uk)



**BEST BUY**

**Airnimal Chameleon**  
From £950

A performance road bike with upwards of 16 gears, depending on the model. It's good enough for serious racing and touring - a Chameleon rider recently took bronze in the World Triathlon Championships. It packs up to a size suitable for a car or a train in 30 seconds, into a suitcase in three minutes, and into carry-on luggage in 15 minutes. 01223 523973; [www.airnimal.com](http://www.airnimal.com)



**Dahon Matrix V**  
£500

An affordable folding mountain bike with 24 gears. The aluminium frame folds in half in a matter of seconds, making it ideal for going from home to car-boot to trail and then back again. It has front and saddle suspension for comfort.



**Bike Friday Tandem Two's Day**  
From £1,975

A folding tandem makes sense: how else would you fit one in the house or in the boot of the car? Bike Friday also makes folding triples that take two adults and a child, or one adult and two children - ideal for an eco-friendly school run. 01225 442442; [www.foldingbikes.co.uk](http://www.foldingbikes.co.uk)

IN THE REVIEW  
TOMORROW

**THE TEN BEST**

## Alpine hotels

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